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WYOMING LABOR FORCE TRENDS

Vol. 27 No. 1 A Monthly Newsletter Published in Cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics January, 1990

Trend Setters

	Oct'89	Nov'89
Wyoming		
Labor Force	223,037	223,802
Employment	211,538	210,840
Unemployment	11,499	12,962
Rate (Raw)	5.2	5.8
Rate (S.A.)	5.9	6.2
Mining Hourly Wage	$14.12	$13.81
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	43.8	45.0
USA		
Rate (S.A.)	5.3	5.4
Mining Hourly Wage	$13.07	$13.09
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	44.0	43.4
Consumer Price Index		
All Urban (1982-1984 = 100)		
U.S. City Avg.	125.6	125.9
Year Change(U.S.)	+4.5	+4.7

S.A.-Seasonally Adjusted

U.S. Unemployment at Ten Month High

The increase in the civilian jobless rate from 5.3 to 5.4 percent, in November, came in spite of the addition of 210,000 non-farm jobs last month. The reason, an increase in the number of unemployed. The November rate represents 6.7 million unemployed across the nation, a monthly gain of 168,000 after seasonal adjustment.

Adult men and women had the lowest unemployment, at 4.7 percent in November. The 16-19 year olds, teenagers, continued with the highest rate at 15.5 percent.

National Manufacturing Payrolls Continue Decline

While all service-producing industries, especially services itself, continued unabated growth, the once rock solid manufacturing sector continues to slide. In November manufacturing workers numbered 27,000 less over the month, and 165,000 fewer than March. Services, on the other hand, was up 125,000 workers over the month.

The total number of civilian workers in the U.S. in November was 117.8 million, seasonally adjusted, up 1.8 million over the year or 1.6 percent. The median duration of unemployment, at 4.8 weeks, was about the same as October and was down from 5.6 weeks a year ago.

Wyoming Unemployment Up in November

Wyoming seasonally adjusted unemployment, at 6.2 percent, was almost one percentage point above the U.S. rate. This compares to the month and year ago rates of 5.9 and 6.7 percent.

The state's raw, or unadjusted unemployment increased at a higher than seasonal level to 5.8 percent in November and continued down, one-half percentage point, from the 6.3 percent of a year ago.

The October rate of 5.2 percent ranked the state's unemployment at eighth highest in the nation. Among the contiguous states to Wyoming only Montana had slightly higher unemployment at 5.3 percent. Hawaii and Nebraska had the lowest jobless levels at 2.5 and 2.7 percent.

The majority, 16, of the 23 counties in the state reflected the statewide trend and posted lower unemployment over the year.

State Worker Count Down

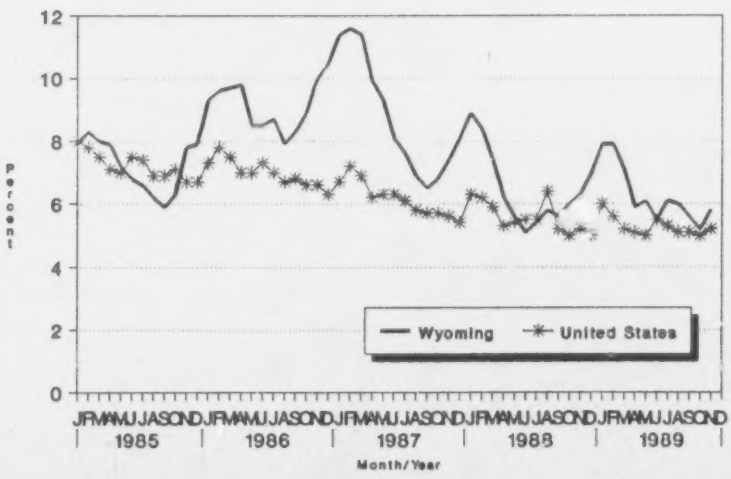
The number of Wyomingites working, total employment, amounted to 210,800 in November. This represents a slight seasonal drop from October of 700 workers and an annual loss of almost 5,900 workers, or 2.7 percent.

The November labor force, at 223,800, contained almost 13,000 unemployed. This compared to 11,500 in October and is down 1,600 from a year ago.

Transportation, Trade and Services Up Sharply

In November, trade and services employment were up 1,500 workers over the year, following the U.S. growth trend. The bulk of the growth in trade occurred in the population

Unemployment Rate, Wyoming and the U.S.
Civilian Unadjusted
1985 - 1989


12
10
8
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Percent
Wyoming
United States
J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D
1985
1986
1987
1988
1989
Month/Year

centers of Cheyenne and Casper. This was not true for services, where the growth continued to be concentrated in hotels and lodging places and confined to tourist oriented areas such as Teton County.

Transportation, specifically railway and motor freight, indicated an annual employment gain of 1,100 workers. These gains can be mainly attributed to increased coal exportation by rail, and merchandise importation by truck.

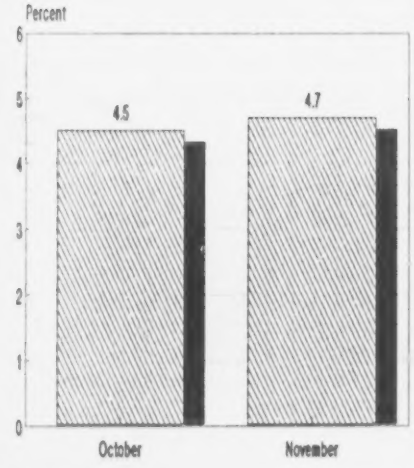
On the other side of the coin, Wyoming industrial sector losses were about as severe as the gains. Mining lead the pack with an annual loss of 800 workers in November, most in oil and gas extraction. Manufacturing, construction, finance, insurance and real estate, and state and local government were all about at or below year ago levels.

Jackson Continues as Economic Crown Jewel

Teton County, unaffected by bust, boom, or national recession continued to lead the state with the highest annual numerical and percentage labor force growth rate in the state. It is the only county in Wyoming that has gained workers every year from 1967 through 1989, 22 consecutive years.

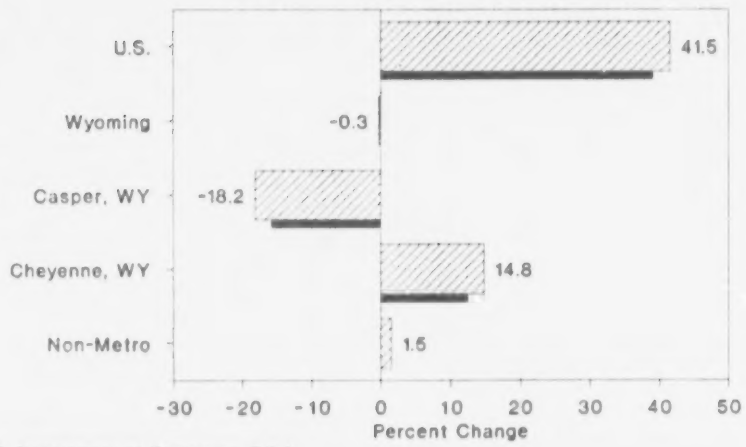
Hot Springs County had the lowest and Fremont County had the highest unemployment rates at 3.3 and 7.9 percent, respectively.

Consumer Price Index
Annual Percent Change
All Urban



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Total Personal Income
Percent Change 1982-1987



U.S. Department of Commerce, B.E.A.

Wyoming Labor Surplus Areas

As of December, 1989 there are 1,682 labor surplus areas in the United States. Wyoming accounted for 17 labor surplus areas. They include: Big Horn, Campbell, Carbon, Converse, Crook, Fremont, Johnson. Lincoln, Balance of Natrona, Niobrara, Platte, Sublette, Sweetwater, Uinta, Washakie, and Weston counties along with Casper City.

Employers located in labor surplus areas, as classified by the U.S. Department of Labor, can be given preference in bidding on Federal procurement contracts. The purpose in providing such preference is to help direct the government's procurement dollars into areas where people are in the most severe economic need, i.e. areas with the highest rates of unemployment.

Labor surplus areas are classified on the basis of civil jurisdictions rather than on a metropolitan area or labor market area basis. Civil jurisdictions are now defined as all cities with a population of at least 25,000 and all counties.

A civil jurisdiction is classified as a labor surplus area when its average unemployment rate was at least 20 percent above the average unemployment rate for all states during the previous two calendar years. During periods of high national unemployment, the 20 percent ratio is disregarded and an area is classified a labor surplus area if its unemployment rate during the previous two calendar years was 10 percent or more. This 10 percent "ceiling" concept comes into operation whenever the two-year average unemployment rate for all states was 8.3 percent or above. Similarly, a "floor" concept of 6.0 percent is used during periods of low national unemployment in order to qualify as a labor surplus area. The six percent "floor" comes into effect whenever the average unemployment rate for all states during the two-year reference period was 5.0 percent or less.

Wyoming Occupational Staffing Patterns Available

Results from the 1988 Occupational Employment Statistics Survey of nonmanufacturing industries are now available. The publication, *Wyoming Occupational Employment Statistics, Balance of Nonmanufacturing, 1988*, contains occupational staffing patterns for selected nonmanufacturing industries including: transportation; communication; utilities; wholesale and retail trade; education; and state and local government. Employment is estimated by major occupational catagories and specific occupations for each industry included in the survey.

If you would like a copy of this report, contact Michael Paris, Wyoming Occupational Employment Statistics Program Director, (307) 235-3642, or write to the address on the back page of *Trends*.

ACCRA* Cost of Living Comparisons - Third Quarter, 1989

Component Index Weights	ALL ITEMS 100%	GROCERIES 17%	HOUSING 22%	UTILITIES 11%	TRANSP. 13%	HEALTH CARE 7%	MISC. 30%
U.S. Average	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Wyoming Cities:							
Casper	92.5	100.8	71.5	94.1	99.3	95.0	99.2
Gillette	99.8	102.7	90.7	102.9	106.2	109.7	98.6
Laramie	97.9	103.2	95.5	91.9	106.9	92.1	96.3
Sheridan	94.9	105.0	78.7	97.3	97.2	97.7	98.4
Neighboring Cities:							
Denver, CO	101.5	92.1	110.1	96.1	106.7	111.9	97.8
Omaha, NE	92.6	91.2	87.6	88.2	112.6	84.7	91.9
Rapid City, SD	97.0	103.1	98.1	101.1	93.5	98.6	92.5
Salt Lake City, UT	94.8	96.1	84.1	89.8	101.3	97.9	100.1
Pocatello, ID	94.0	96.2	85.4	84.5	102.0	105.9	96.3
Highest U.S. City:	157.2 NASSAU-SUFFOLK NY	150.3 KODIAK AK	259.6 SAN FRANCISCO CA	188.3 NASSAU-SUFFOLK NY	127.0 SAN DIEGO CA	197.3 JUNEAU AK	136.2 KETCHIKAN AK
Lowest U.S. City:	84.6 PRYOR OK	85.3 AKRON OH	66.8 CARUTHERS-VILLE MO	33.7 WENATCHEE WA	79.6 NEVADA MO	71.5 LUFKIN TX	85.2 SUMERSET KY

Source: *American Chamber of Commerce Research Association.

LARAMIE CO, WYOMING

Laramie County's 1987 population of 75,600 ranked first in the state.

PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME - In 1987, Laramie County had a per capita personal income (PCPI) of $13,482. This PCPI ranked fourth in the state, and was 106 percent of the state average ($12,706) and 87 percent of the national average ($15,484). In 1977, Laramie County's PCPI of $7,285 ranked 11th in the state. The average annual growth rate of PCPI over the past 10 years was 6.3 percent. The nation was 7.8 percent.

LINCOLN, WYOMING

Lincoln County's 1987 population of 15,000 ranked 11th in the state.

PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME - In 1987, Lincoln had a per capita personal income (PCPI) of $10,996. This PCPI ranked 18th in the state, and was 87 percent of the state average and 71 percent of the national average. In 1977, Lincoln's PCPI of $7,043 ranked 12th in the state. The average annual growth rate of PCPI over the past 10 years was 4.6 percent. The average annual growth rate for the state was 6.9 percent and for the nation was 8.9 percent.

Wyoming Labor Force and Employment
1985 - 1989

Scale does not begin at zero.
Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics, BLS and Research & Analysis.

Consumer Price Index

(1982-1984 = 100)
All Urban

	Nov. 1989	Annual % change
All Items	125.9	4.7
Food & Beverage	126.7	5.4
Housing	124.5	3.8
Entertainment	128.6	5.2
Apparel & Upkeep	122.1	1.8
Transportation	115.0	3.9
Medical	153.9	8.5

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

WYOMING
ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Table 1

ITEM	NOV 1989	OCT 1989	NOV 1988	% CHANGE IN TOTAL EMP. Percent Change From A Month Ago	A Year Ago
WYOMING EMPLOYMENT DATA					
Total Civilian Labor Force	223,802	223,037	231,319	0.3 %	-3.2 %
Unemployment	12,962	11,499	14,610	12.7	-11.3
Employed Labor Force	210,840	211,538	216,709	-0.3	-2.7
a. Covered Employment (Under WY UI Law) [3]	175,300	177,200	173,606	-1.1	1.0
b. Agriculture	11,121	13,026	11,256	-14.6	-1.2
Total Unemployment Rate (WY) Seasonally Adjusted*	5.8% 6.2%*	5.2% 5.9%*	6.3% 6.7%*	XXX	XXX
Total Unemployment Rate (U.S.) Seasonally Adjusted*	5.2% 5.4%*	5.0% 5.3%*	5.2% 5.4%*	XXX	XXX
Insured Unemployment Rate (WY)	1.5%	1.0%	1.8%	XXX	XXX
HOURS & EARNINGS					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 621.45	$ 618.46	$ 618.44	0.5	0.5
Average Weekly Hours	45.0	43.8	41.9	2.7	7.4
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 13.81	$ 14.12	$ 14.76	-2.2	-6.4
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE					
Claims Filed in Local Office	13,839	11,033	17,261	25.4	-19.8
a. Initial	2,880	2,405	3,677	19.8	-21.7
Weeks Compensated	9,006	6,420	12,012	40.3	-25.0
Total Amount Benefits Paid	$ 1,372,406	$ 987,550	$ 1,869,083	39.0	-26.6
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$ 152.21	$ 153.61	$ 154.90	-0.9	-1.7
EMPLOYMENT SERVICES					
Total Applications Received During Month	3,976	4,025	4,259	-1.2	-6.6
Total Openings Received	2,433	3,399	2,088	-28.4	16.5
Individual Placements	1,338	1,798	1,503	-25.6	-11.0
Placement Transactions	2,144	2,835	2,145	-24.4	0.0
UNITED STATES DATA					
HOURS & EARNINGS					
Mining					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 568.11	$ 575.08	$ 540.09	-1.2	5.2
Average Weekly Hours	43.4	44.0	41.9	-1.4	3.6
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 13.09	$ 13.07	$ 12.89	0.2	1.6
PRICE INDEXES					
Consumer Price Index 1982-84=100	125.9	125.6	120.3	0.2	4.7
Producer Prices, All Commodities 1982-84=100	112.7	112.7	108.3	0.0	4.1
Food and Beverage 1982-84=100	126.7	126.3	120.2	0.3	5.4

s in non-agricultural establishments who worked or received pay during the week which includes the
unts and personnel of the armed forces are excluded. 2 Subject to revision. 3 Revised figures.

ERRATUM - Table 1 footnotes are incorrect. Please refer to the December issue of Trends for correct footnotes.

WYOMING
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE & UNEMPLOYMENT

Table 2 (Prepared in Cooperation with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

	LABOR FORCE					UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
COUNTY	NOV 1989	OCT 1989	NOV 1988	% CHANGE OCT-NOV	% CHANGE OCT-NOV	NOV 1989	OCT 1989	NOV 1988	NOV 1989	OCT 1989	NOV 1988
Statewide	223,802	223,037	231,319	0.3	-3.2	12,962	11,499	14,610	5.8 %	5.2 %	6.3 %
Statewide - Seasonally Adjusted									6.2 *	5.9 *	6.7 *
Albany	14,353	13,982	14,918	2.7	-3.8	539	477	550	3.8	3.4	3.7
Big Horn	5,435	5,397	5,226	0.7	4.0	327	231	408	6.0	4.3	7.8
Campbell	14,357	14,145	15,276	1.5	-6.0	1,020	760	1,227	7.1	5.4	8.0
Carbon	6,819	6,808	7,330	0.2	-7.0	405	389	518	5.9	5.7	7.1
Converse	6,033	5,930	5,962	1.7	1.2	393	427	413	6.5	7.2	6.9
Crook	2,589	2,708	2,942	-4.4	-12.0	181	106	178	7.0	3.9	6.1
Fremont	16,356	16,104	16,180	1.6	1.1	1,296	1,009	1,187	7.9	6.3	7.3
Goshen	5,661	5,620	6,070	0.7	-6.7	294	162	254	5.2	2.9	4.2
Hot Springs	2,673	2,779	2,864	-3.8	-6.7	88	161	140	3.3	5.8	4.9
Johnson	3,320	3,499	3,377	-5.1	-1.7	175	147	203	5.3	4.2	6.0
Laramie	34,485	33,745	36,012	2.2	-4.2	1,923	1,775	2,033	5.6	5.3	5.6
Lincoln	4,992	5,109	5,568	-2.3	-10.3	354	296	422	7.1	5.8	7.6
Natrona	29,579	28,781	30,740	2.8	-3.8	1,930	1,647	1,907	6.5	5.7	6.2
Niobrara	1,011	1,070	1,242	-5.5	-18.6	70	65	78	6.9	6.1	6.3
Park	12,863	13,154	13,072	-2.2	-1.6	648	594	788	5.0	4.5	6.0
Platte	4,682	4,798	4,512	-2.4	3.8	259	256	323	5.5	5.3	7.2
Sheridan	13,294	13,343	13,037	-0.4	2.0	695	489	705	5.2	3.7	5.4
Sublette	2,395	2,480	2,580	-3.4	-7.2	82	101	140	3.4	4.1	5.4
Sweetwater	17,898	17,769	18,559	0.7	-3.6	990	1,119	1,362	5.5	6.3	7.3
Teton	8,921	9,515	8,458	-6.2	5.5	354	284	453	4.0	3.0	5.4
Uinta	8,668	8,771	9,443	-1.2	-8.2	580	562	824	6.7	6.4	8.7
Washakie	4,072	4,168	4,412	-2.3	-7.7	202	278	247	5.0	6.7	5.6
Weston	3,349	3,361	3,540	-0.4	-5.4	158	166	250	4.7	4.9	7.1
United States									5.2	5.0	5.2
United States - Seasonally Adjusted									5.4 *	5.3 *	5.4 *

The ESC wishes to state that the data contained in this table are only estimates. The data for the current month is a preliminary estimate and will be revised next month and revised again in about a year. The data contained in this table includes updated procedures mandated by the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. In addition, the 1988 data has been benchmarked to the Current Population Survey as conducted in Wyoming.

NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

(Prepared in Cooperation with U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

Table 3

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT IN THOUSANDS NOV 1989 [2] Total	OCT 1989 [3] Total	NOV 1988 Total	% CHANGE IN TOTAL EMP. OCT 1989 to NOV 1989	NOV 1988 to NOV 1989
WYOMING NON-FARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT					
Total Non-Farm Wage & Salary Employment	190.4	193.9	188.3	-1.8 %	1.1 %
Manufacturing	9.6	9.8	9.5	-2.0	1.1
Durable Goods	4.1	4.2	4.2	-2.4	-2.4
Nondurable Goods	5.5	5.6	5.3	-1.8	3.8
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	180.8	184.1	178.8	-1.8	1.1
Mining	18.1	18.6	18.9	-2.7	-4.2
Contract Construction	10.6	11.2	10.4	-5.4	1.9
Transportation & Public Utilities	14.6	14.6	13.5	0.0	8.2
Railroad Transportation	2.7	2.7	2.0	0.0	35.0
Transportation except Railroads	6.1	6.1	5.7	0.0	7.0
Communications, Electric, Gas, & Sanitary Services [1]	5.8	5.8	5.8	0.0	0.0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	42.4	42.7	41.8	-0.7	1.4
Wholesale Trade	7.0	6.9	6.8	1.5	2.9
Retail Trade	35.4	35.8	35.0	-1.1	1.1
Food Stores	5.4	5.4	5.3	0.0	1.9
Automotive Dealers & Service Stations	6.0	6.0	5.6	0.0	7.1
Eating & Drinking Places	12.7	13.1	12.9	-3.1	-1.6
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	7.1	7.2	7.2	-1.4	-1.4
Services	32.8	34.4	31.9	-4.7	2.8
Personal Services	1.9	1.9	1.8	0.0	5.6
Medical & Other Health Services	7.0	7.0	6.9	0.0	1.5
Government	55.2	55.4	55.1	-0.4	0.2
Federal Government	8.4	8.6	8.0	-2.3	5.0
State & Local Government	46.8	46.8	47.1	0.0	-0.6
State Government	13.8	14.1	13.9	-2.1	-0.7
Local Government	33.0	32.7	33.2	0.9	-0.6

See footnotes at end of table

NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

(Publication of Cheyenne data is not sanctioned by the Bureau of Labor Statistics)

Table 3 (Continued)

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT IN THOUSANDS NOV 1989 [2] Total	OCT 1989 [3] Total	NOV 1988 Total	% CHANGE IN TOTAL EMP. OCT 1989 to NOV 1989	NOV 1988 to NOV 1989
CASPER (Natrona County)					
Total Non-Farm Wage and Salary Employment	28.0	27.9	27.6	0.4 %	1.5 %
Manufacturing	1.5	1.4	1.4	7.1	7.1
Nondurable Goods	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	26.5	26.5	26.2	0.0	1.2
Mining	2.8	2.7	2.8	3.7	0.0
Oil & Gas Extraction	2.6	2.5	2.6	4.0	0.0
Other Mining, Quarrying, etc.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Contract Construction	1.7	1.7	1.6	0.0	6.3
Transportation & Public Utilities	1.9	1.9	1.9	0.0	0.0
Wholesale & Retail Trade	8.1	8.0	7.8	1.3	3.9
Wholesale Trade	2.2	2.2	2.2	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	5.9	5.8	5.6	1.7	5.4
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0
Services	5.8	5.8	5.7	0.0	1.8
Government	4.8	5.0	5.0	-4.0	-4.0
Federal Government	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
State & Local Government	4.1	4.3	4.3	-4.7	-4.7
CHEYENNE (Laramie County)					
Total Non-Farm Wage and Salary Employment	31.3	31.4	30.3	-0.3	3.3
Manufacturing	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	30.0	30.1	29.0	-0.3	3.5
Contract Construction	1.6	1.7	1.5	-5.9	6.7
Transportation & Public Utilities	3.2	3.2	3.0	0.0	6.7
Wholesale & Retail Trade	7.2	7.0	6.9	2.9	4.4
Wholesale Trade	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	6.4	6.2	6.1	3.2	4.9
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	2.0	2.0	1.8	0.0	11.1
Services	5.7	5.8	5.5	-1.7	3.6
Government	10.2	10.3	10.2	-1.0	0.0
Federal Government	2.7	2.7	2.7	0.0	0.0
State & Local Government	7.5	7.6	7.5	-1.3	0.0

1 Estimates include all full and part-time wage and salary workers in non-agricultural establishments who worked or received pay during the week which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employeds, domestic servants and personnel of the armed forces are excluded. 2 Subject to revision. 3 Revised figures.